

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KOGA, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 28, 2006

Title: Intramedullary Rod for Assisting Artificial Knee Joint Replacing Operation
and Method for Managing Operation Using that Rod

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 28, 2006

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the documents, except for the US patent documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the new application.

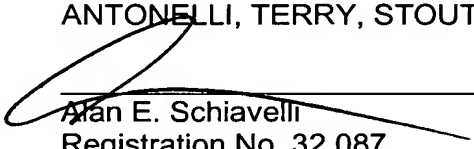
To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English Language abstract.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.46649X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number		
			Filing Date	September 27, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Yoshio KOGA et al.	
			Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	520.46649X00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,454,816	10/03/1995	ASHBY	
		US- 5,275,603	01/04/1994	FERRANTE et al.	
		US- 5,464,406	11/07/1995	RITTER et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2003-144454	05/20/2003	Koga Yosho & Terajima Kazuhiro & Niigata Eng Co. Ltd.		Abs
		JP 2004-008707	01/15/2004	Osaka Industrial Promotion Organization		Abs
		JP 11-221244	08/17/1999	Sulzer Orthopaedie AG		Abs
		JP 2001-286481	10/16/2001	Homuzu Giken: KK		Abs
		JP 05-277130	10-26-1993	Dow Corning Wright Corp		
		JP 06-237941	08-30-1994	Howmedic Internatl Inc		Abs

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

ATTACHMENT

International Application No.	International Filing Date	Attorney Docket No.
PCT/JP2004/004715	March 31, 2004	520.46649X00

1. International Publication No. WO 2005/099636 ***A-1
2. PCT Request (in Japanese);
3. Notification of Receipt of Record Copy;
4. Notification Concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document
5. International Search Report